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# California State Senate

SENATOR  
JANET NGUYEN

THIRTY-SIXTH SENATE DISTRICT



COMMITTEES  
BUSINESS & PROFESSIONS  
VICE CHAIR  
ELECTIONS &  
CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS  
VICE CHAIR  
INSURANCE  
VICE CHAIR  
HEALTH  
VICE CHAIR  
GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION  
BANKING & FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS  
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
TRANSPORTATION

April 10, 2023

Mr. Douglas Bosco, Chairman  
California State Coastal Commission  
1515 Clay Street, 10th Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612

To: FY 2023 California State Coastal Conservancy Grant

Dear Sir/Madam:

I would like to express my support of the Huntington Beach Wetlands Conservancy's California State Coastal Conservancy grant request which will enable them to restore approximately 48.4 acres of degraded salt marsh, known as the Newland Marsh, in southern California while further developing its strong educational and community involvement.

The Huntington Beach Wetlands Conservancy (HBWC) is a local non-profit organization that has had remarkable achievements since it was formed over thirty-five years ago. With the assistance of the Coastal Conservancy and other state and federal partners, they have purchased over 190 acres of the Huntington Beach Wetlands, specifically Talbert Marsh, Brookhurst Marsh, Upper Magnolia Marsh and Lower Magnolia Marsh. HBWC recently took ownership of the degraded Newland Marsh and with the support of its partners proposes to implement the same level of dramatic restoration at this site as has been observed at Talbert, Brookhurst and Magnolia Marshes.

Wetland restoration brings several well-understood benefits to the local environment including the enhancement of fishery and avian habitats. Post-restoration monitoring has shown an increase in abundance and diversity of fish and bird species within the restored wetlands. Functioning wetlands also offer greater resilience to coastal flooding using natural infrastructure.

HBWC has a long history of community engagement and enjoys support from academia, non-profit organizations, the outdoor loving public, and local, state and federal officials. For more than thirty-five years, HBWC has conducted community outreach and provided educational opportunities to schools and the community including through their Interpretive Center. Community input is actively pursued and valued by HBWC which has successfully enlisted the

help of volunteers from a wide swath of Southern California in restoration, monitoring and maintenance projects. HBWC seeks to build on these efforts and further engage historically underserved communities.

Given how little area of natural coastal wetlands remain in California, I believe that supporting HBWC in its bid to restore the degraded Newland Marsh is an important and worthy endeavor and one which I fully support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Janet Nguyen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Janet" being more prominent than the last name "Nguyen".

JANET NGUYEN  
Senator, Thirty-Sixth District  
California State Senate

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(949) 798-7221

Assembly  
California Legislature



**DIANE B. DIXON**  
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, SEVENTY-SECOND DISTRICT

COMMITTEES  
VICE CHAIR: ACCOUNTABILITY AND  
ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW  
VICE CHAIR: LOCAL GOVERNMENT  
APPROPRIATIONS  
BANKING AND FINANCE  
BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS  
JUDICIARY  
JOINT FAIRS ALLOCATION AND  
CLASSIFICATION

Mr. Douglas Bosco, Chairman  
California State Coastal Conservancy  
1515 Clay Street, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Oakland, CA  
94612

Dear Chairman Bosco,

This letter seeks to convey my support of the Huntington Beach Wetlands Conservancy's California State Coastal Conservancy grant request which will enable them to restore approximately 48.4 acres of degraded salt marsh, known as the Newland Marsh, in southern California while further developing its strong educational and community involvement.

The Huntington Beach Wetlands Conservancy (HBWC) is a local non-profit organization that has had remarkable achievements since it was formed over thirty-five years ago. With the assistance of the Coastal Conservancy and other state and federal partners, they have purchased over 190 acres of the Huntington Beach Wetlands, specifically Talbert Marsh, Brookhurst Marsh, Upper Magnolia Marsh and Lower Magnolia Marsh. HBWC recently took ownership of the degraded Newland Marsh and with the support of its partners proposes to implement the same level of dramatic restoration at this site as has been observed at Talbert, Brookhurst and Magnolia Marshes.

Wetland restoration brings several well-understood benefits to the local environment including the enhancement of fishery and avian habitats. Post-restoration monitoring has shown an increase in abundance and diversity of fish and bird species within the restored wetlands. Functioning wetlands also offer greater resilience to coastal flooding using natural infrastructure.

HBWC has a long history of community engagement and enjoys support from academia, non-profit organizations, the outdoor loving public, and local, state and federal officials. For more than thirty-five years, HBWC has conducted community outreach and provided educational opportunities to schools and the community including through their Interpretive Center. Community input is actively pursued and valued by HBWC which has successfully enlisted the help of volunteers from a wide swath of Southern California in restoration, monitoring and maintenance projects. HBWC seeks to build on these efforts and further engage historically underserved communities.

Given how little area of natural coastal wetlands remain in California, I believe that supporting HBWC in its bid to restore the degraded Newland Marsh is an important and worthy endeavor and one which I support 100%.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Diane B. Dixon". The script is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Diane" being more prominent than the last name "Dixon".

Diane B. Dixon  
California's 72<sup>nd</sup> Assembly District



# CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

PLANNING ♦ BUILDING ♦ PERMIT CENTER ♦ ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ♦ HOUSING ♦ CODE ENFORCEMENT

April 10, 2023

To: FY20023 California State Coastal Conservancy grant

Dear Sir/Madam:

This letter seeks to convey our support of the Huntington Beach Wetlands Conservancy's California State Coastal Conservancy grant request which will enable them to restore approximately 48.4 acres of degraded salt marsh, known as the Newland Marsh, in southern California while further developing its strong educational and community involvement.

The Huntington Beach Wetlands Conservancy (HBWC) is a local non-profit organization that has had remarkable achievements since it was formed over thirty-five years ago. With the assistance of the Coastal Conservancy and other state and federal partners, they have purchased over 190 acres of the Huntington Beach Wetlands, specifically Talbert Marsh, Brookhurst Marsh, Upper Magnolia Marsh and Lower Magnolia Marsh. HBWC recently took ownership of the degraded Newland Marsh and with the support of its partners proposes to implement the same level of dramatic restoration at this site as has been observed at Talbert, Brookhurst and Magnolia Marshes.

Wetland restoration brings several well-understood benefits to the local environment including the enhancement of fishery and avian habitats. Post-restoration monitoring has shown an increase in abundance and diversity of fish and bird species within the restored wetlands. Functioning wetlands also offer greater resilience to coastal flooding using natural infrastructure.

HBWC has a long history of community engagement and enjoys support from academia, non-profit organizations, the outdoor loving public, and local, state and federal officials. For more than thirty-five years, HBWC has conducted community outreach and provided educational opportunities to schools and the community including through their Interpretive Center. Community input is actively pursued and valued by HBWC which has successfully enlisted the help of volunteers from a wide swath of Southern California in restoration, monitoring and maintenance projects. HBWC seeks to build on these efforts and further engage historically underserved communities.

Given how little area of natural coastal wetlands remain in California, we believe that supporting HBWC in its bid to restore the degraded Newland Marsh is an important and worthy endeavor and one which we support 100%. We will also be the Lead Agency to work with the HBWC during its "Cut-the-Green Tape" permitting process.

Sincerely,

Ursula Luna-Reynosa  
Director of Community Development





# Juaneño Band of Mission Indians

## Acjachemen Nation

Tribal Council  
Heidi Lucero - Chairwoman · Richard Rodman - Vice Chairman  
Georgia Edmundson - Secretary  
Sabrina Banda - Member at Large · Shannon Wingfield - Member at Large

August 31, 2022

To: FY20022 NOAA Transformational Habitat Restoration and Coastal Resilience Grant Review Team

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)  
Department of Commerce

Dear Sir/Madam:

This letter seeks to convey our support of the Huntington Beach Wetlands Conservancy's NOAA grant request which will enable them to restore approximately 44 acres of degraded salt marsh, known as the Newland Marsh, in southern California while further developing its strong educational and community involvement.

The Huntington Beach Wetlands Conservancy (HBWC) is a local non-profit organization that has had remarkable achievements since it was formed over thirty-five years ago. With the assistance of the Coastal Conservancy and other state and federal partners, they have purchased over 190 acres of the Huntington Beach Wetlands, specifically Talbert Marsh, Brookhurst Marsh, Upper Magnolia Marsh and Lower Magnolia Marsh. HBWC recently took ownership of the very degraded Newland Marsh and with the support of its partners proposes to implement the same level of dramatic restoration at this site as has been observed at Talbert, Brookhurst and Magnolia Marshes.

Wetland restoration brings several well-understood benefits to the local environment including the enhancement of fishery and avian habitats. Post-restoration monitoring has shown an increase in abundance and diversity of fish and bird species within the restored wetlands. Functioning wetlands also offer greater resilience to coastal flooding using natural infrastructure.

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Given how little area of natural coastal wetlands remains in California, we believe that supporting HBWC in its bid to restore the degraded Newland Marsh is an important and worthy endeavor and one which we support 100%.

Sincerely,



Chairwoman Heidi Lucero  
CEO Juaneño Band of Mission Indians  
Acjachemen Nation  
[JBMIAN.Chairwoman@gmail.com](mailto:JBMIAN.Chairwoman@gmail.com)

August 23, 2022

To: FY20022 NOAA Transformational Habitat Restoration and Coastal Resilience  
Grant Review Team

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)  
Department of Commerce

Dear Sir/Madam:

This letter seeks to convey my support of the Huntington Beach Wetlands Conservancy' s NOAA grant request which will enable them to restore approximately 44 acres of degraded salt marsh, known as the Newland Marsh, in southern California while further developing its strong educational and community involvement.

The Huntington Beach Wetlands Conservancy (HBWC) is a local non-profit organization that has had remarkable achievements since it was formed over thirty-five years ago. With the assistance of the Coastal Conservancy and other state and federal partners, they have purchased over 190 acres of the Huntington Beach Wetlands, specifically Talbert Marsh, Brookhurst Marsh, Upper Magnolia Marsh and Lower Magnolia Marsh. HBWC recently took ownership of the very degraded Newland Marsh and with the support of its partners proposes to implement the same level of dramatic restoration at this site as has been observed at Talbert, Brookhurst and Magnolia Marshes.

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Given how little area of natural coastal wetlands remain in California, I believe that supporting HBWC in its bid to restore the degraded Newland Marsh is an important and worthy endeavor and one which I support 100%.

Sincerely,  
Monica L. Royalty- 909-238-7659  
Teacher & National Honor Society Adviser  
Sherman Indian High School  
Riverside, CA 92503

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## State Water Resources Control Board

April 12, 2023

Ms. Amy Hutzell  
Executive Officer  
California State Coastal Conservancy  
1515 Clay Street, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612-1401

Dear Ms. Hutzell,

### RE: APPROVAL OF PROPOSED PROJECTS FOR ONCE-THROUGH COOLING INTERIM MITIGATION FUNDS

The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) approves the California State Coastal Conservancy's (Coastal Conservancy) request to use interim mitigation funds for two projects: the Newland Marsh Restoration Planning Project in Orange County through Huntington Beach Wetlands Conservancy (Newland Marsh) and the Villa Creek Estuary Restoration and Sea Level Rise Resiliency Project in Morro Bay through California Department of Parks and Recreation (Villa Creek).

Both projects support the restoration of coastal wetlands and ecosystems near facilities that use once-through cooling technology and have goals to restore and protect habitats for intrinsically valuable species. Therefore, the Newland Marsh and Villa Creek projects align with the intended use of interim mitigation funds as described in the Water Quality Control Policy on the Use of Coastal and Estuarine Waters for Power Plant Cooling (Once-Through Cooling or OTC Policy) and the November 2016 Memorandum of Understanding (2016 MOU) entered into by the State Water Board, the Coastal Conservancy, and the Ocean Protection Council.

On February 22, 2023, the State Water Board received a letter from the Coastal Conservancy requesting approval of the use of interim mitigation funds provided to the Coastal Conservancy by owners and operators of facilities complying with Section 2.C(3) of the OTC Policy. In accordance with Section 4 of the 2016 MOU, the State Water Board has reviewed the projects selected by the Coastal Conservancy and is providing this approval letter.

Between October 1, 2015, and September 30, 2020, the Coastal Conservancy received approximately \$7.9 million in interim mitigation funds. Of this total, interim mitigation funds paid directly to the Coastal Conservancy for Mandalay and Ormond Beach Generating Stations (to date totaling \$1,152,747) have been dedicated to the Ormond Beach Wetlands Restoration Project consistent with the terms in the 2014 settlement

E. JOAQUIN ESQUIVEL, CHAIR | EILEEN SOBECK, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



agreement between the State Water Board and NRG. The Coastal Conservancy is requesting to direct \$2,556,000 from the remaining interim mitigation funds to the Newland Marsh and Villa Creek projects.

The following are brief descriptions of the selected projects and the amount of interim mitigation funds that the Coastal Conservancy proposes to direct towards each project:

- Newland Marsh – The Coastal Conservancy would grant Huntington Beach Wetlands Conservancy with \$556,000 of interim mitigation funds to enhance 44.8 acres of degraded wetlands in Newland Marsh. The wetland is part of the larger Huntington Beach Wetlands Complex, located near the Huntington Beach Generating Station. The funds would be used for restoration planning, including project planning, engineering design, environmental review document preparation, regulatory permit applications, and community engagement.
- Villa Creek – The Coastal Conservancy would provide California Department of Parks and Recreation with two million dollars of interim mitigation funds to restore coastal wetland ecosystems in San Luis Obispo County, approximately 10 miles south of Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant. The funds would be used to remove fill from the jurisdictional waterway and install habitat enhancement features, allowing for the unobstructed flow of Vila Creek and restoring natural tidal flooding. The project is designed to protect and restore native habitats for steelhead, tidewater goby, California red-legged frogs, and western snowy plovers.

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact Sami Michishita ([Sami.Michishita@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Sami.Michishita@waterboards.ca.gov)) or Katherine Walsh ([Katherine.Walsh@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Katherine.Walsh@waterboards.ca.gov)) at (916) 445-2317.

Sincerely,



Eileen Sobeck  
Executive Director

cc: Ms. Karen Mogus, [Karen.Mogus@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Karen.Mogus@waterboards.ca.gov)  
Mr. Phillip Crader, [Phillip.Crader@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Phillip.Crader@waterboards.ca.gov)  
Ms. Catherine Hagan, [Catherine.Hagan@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Catherine.Hagan@waterboards.ca.gov)  
Ms. Rebecca Fitzgerald, [Rebecca.Fitzgerald@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Rebecca.Fitzgerald@waterboards.ca.gov)  
Ms. Katherine Walsh, [Katherine.Walsh@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Katherine.Walsh@waterboards.ca.gov)  
Ms. Mary Small, [Mary.Small@scc.ca.gov](mailto:Mary.Small@scc.ca.gov)  
Ms. Megan Cooper, [Megan.Cooper@scc.ca.gov](mailto:Megan.Cooper@scc.ca.gov)  
Ms. Trish Chapman, [Trish.Chapman@scc.ca.gov](mailto:Trish.Chapman@scc.ca.gov)